REACH HIGHER

LAKESHORE EXCELLENCE FOUNDATION

SPRING 2021

THANK YOU

Thank you to the individuals and businesses who have supported LEF this past year! We sincerely appreciate your generosity.

READ MORE PAGE 2.

GRANTS IN ACTION

$250,000 in grants awarded to teachers and students in 2020. Peek inside to read about some of our grants in action!

READ MORE PAGE 5 & 6.

Our mission is to "acquire and distribute resources in support of Lakeshore Public Schools for programs and projects aimed at enriching or supplementing learning opportunities for students, staff, and community."

Thank you for your continued support!

TRUSTEES

JC Anderson
Sophie Bauchet
Ludo Beaufils
Kate Beckrow
Zeb Deitrich
Chad Deja
Phil Freeman
Rachel Hall
Janine Harrison
Lori Marciniak
Elizabeth Meeth
Phil Molloy
Kameron Morris
Griffin Ott
Julia Pechtel
Jennifer Powers
Dana Riley
Jim Roberts
Bill Scaletta
Laurie Schmidt
Lori VonKoenig
Kris Weber
Kathleen Wolf

LEF
LAKESHORE
EXCELLENCE
FOUNDATION

Back to the Basics: Our Sincerest Thank You

Research shows what we all inherently learned as young children: Saying "thank you" is the right thing to do.

It's a powerful gesture. "Saying thanks can improve somebody's own happiness, and it can improve the well-being of another person as well — even more than we anticipate, in fact," says research study co-author Amit Kumar, an assistant professor of marketing at the University of Texas at Austin's McCombs School of Business. "If both parties are benefiting from this, I think that's the type of action we should be pursuing more often in our everyday lives."

In a typical year, Lakeshore Excellence Foundation has two major fundraising events: The Lakeshore Golf Scramble in June and our Online Auction in February.

Our board members would normally reach out to businesses and individuals within the community to ask for donations. But this year was unlike any other we've experienced. Our business supporters have been struggling to stay afloat as COVID restrictions have changed the way they are able to work. As we approached the time to plan for our February Online Auction we just didn't feel right about going out into the community. It was unanimously agreed by our board that there was no way we could ask for donations for the Online Auction.

Out of that conversation grew an idea that also generated unanimous support. Rather than ask, why don't we take this time to show our gratitude and appreciation?

Each board member took the time to hand-write thank you cards that were sent to those businesses and individuals who have supported our foundation's efforts. Writing a thank you note is such a simple and easy gesture. It doesn't feel as if it compares to the generosity that we experience on a regular basis, but Lakeshore Excellence Foundation is sincerely grateful for the kindness of those who support our organization's efforts.

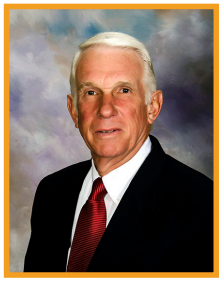
It is through these donations that we are able to positively impact the educational experiences of our students and staff, making our community a better place to live and work.

THANK YOU!

See the 2020 Lakeshore Education Foundation Business Donors list on PAGE 4. Learn more about LEF online at: lefonline.org

As We Look Ahead ...

Lakeshore Public School Community and Our Donors



J.C. Anderson, LEF Chairman

As I have evaluated what to discuss in this Chairman's Letter, I had a number of thoughts that I wanted to share with you. This won't be a long and drawn out discussion regarding any one of the items, but rather some commentary and questions as I think about these items in relation to our Lakeshore Excellence Foundation's (LEF) activity. They are all important to the LEF so they are addressed in no particular order:

1 Superintendent Phil Freeman

We are all aware of Phil's decision to retire at the end of the school year. After many years in education, with his last stop as our Lakeshore Superintendent, Phil's leaving will be a real loss for our community, our school system, and the LEF. As many of you may have experienced, Phil is very easy to talk with and is willing to discuss any appropriate subject. He has helped the LEF develop a rich understanding of the school system and how our financial support can be utilized most effectively. Phil has been very complimentary about the LEF's fundraising capability in comparison to his previous foundation in a much larger community. We will miss the close working relationship and friendship that we have developed with Phil, but we will work to develop a similar relationship with the new Superintendent. **How can LEF develop a similar, strong relationship with the new Superintendent?**

2 COVID-19

I imagine that we are all struggling with the impact that this virus has had in one way or another: On our businesses, our school system and potentially our personal health. It is estimated that the initiation of the virtual learning option and the enhanced safety precautions for in-school learning will cost an additional $1.9 million for the Lakeshore Schools this 2020-2021 school year. It does not appear that this premium spending will go away soon and certainly the State of Michigan will not fund this long term. **Does the LEF play a role in this funding?**

3 Inclusion Matters

Our nation has seen unprecedented outcries in 2020 and early 2021, asking that each individual be treated with respect and given equal opportunity. As the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation, we must work to develop an approach to ensure that our funding helps accomplish two items: 1) We must strive to reduce the achievement gap and 2) Address diversity/equity/inclusion as part of our major projects and grants that we fund. **What definitive items can the LEF do in this area of diversity, equity and inclusion?**

4 Funding Lakeshore's Next Major Project(s)

With the STEM Implementation, Reading Matters and Community Auditorium renovation projects reaching the end of the LEF's financial support, we are working with Phil Freeman to identify and assess a number of potential major projects that LEF could fund. We want to hit a "grand slam home run" with each of our major projects so that our donors, the staff, students and the community all feel excellent about that investment. **What will be the next major project(s) funded by the LEF?**

5 LEF Contributions

As you can see, there is no lack of need to help financially support our Lakeshore Public Schools. We are faced, however, with an economy that has barely started to recover from the impact of COVID-19. The impact has been different for all of us, but we have all been affected in some manner. I have always said that there is no better investment than the one you make in kids and education. Donating to LEF is a tax deductible contribution that accomplishes both. **What impact will COVID-19 have on the LEF contributions in 2021?**

As I mentioned in the beginning, I have a number of thoughts and questions running around in my mind. Now you know those thoughts, questions and have an idea of the work that the LEF Board is in the process of undertaking. As always, I would like to hear your comments and opinions.

J.C. Anderson, LEF Chairman
anderjcna@gmail.com
(269) 921-2513

2020 Lakeshore Excellence Foundation Business Donors

The Lakeshore Public Schools community is a wonderful area to live, work, raise your children, and an EXCELLENT place for education. Thank you for your generosity.

221 Main - *Restaurant & Cocktail House*
Abonmarche Consultants
Affinity Salon & Spa- Renee Borah
Alex's Veggies
Anytime Fitness
Applebee's - *Neighborhood Grill & Bar*
Baguette de France
BC Car Detailing
Bert's Breakfast Korner
Bit of Swiss
Boelcke - *Heating and Air Conditioning*
Boulevard Inn & Bistro
bread+bar by Bit of Swiss
Bridgman Family Dental Care
Candlestick Maker
Celebration Cinema
Chocolate Café
Coach's Bar & Grill
Competitive Edge - *Paula Wygonik and Mary Jo Tomasini*
Cracker Barrel
Diamond Factory Service
Dura Mold Inc.
Fanatics
Fenn Valley Vineyards
Fernwood - *Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve*
Frederic & Kimberly's
Frederick S. Upton Foundation
Full Circle Café & Espresso Bar
Gallery on the Alley
Grande Mere Inn
Gravity Winery
Great Lakes Eye Care - *Dr. Marohn*
Griffin Tool, Inc.
Hanson Foundation
Harbor Shores Golf Club
HarborTown Interiors
Hartline's - *Greenhouse and Garden Center*
Honor Credit Union
Hoopla Frozen Yogurt
Indian Lake Hills Golf Course
Jim Roberts Enterprises LLC
John Ball Zoo
Kilwins St. Joseph
KitchenAid
Lakeshore Family Dental
Lakeshore Middle School - *8th Grade Design Production Class*
Lakeshore Petroleum - *John, Kathy & Mark Curtis*
Lakeshore Public Schools
M Squared Modern Hair
M&W Tire
Maddog 5/1 Revolutionary Fitness
MagFit Training
Mark Brown - *Thrivent Financial*
Mark III Grille & Bar
Martin's Super Markets
Melanie Easley at Allure Salon
Midwest Glass & Mirror
Modern Day Knights
Moersch Hospitality Group
Nutrizone - *Mary Jo Risetter*
Olive Cart
Penguin Random House
Perennial Accents
Professional Hearing Services, LTD.
Raymond H. Elmore, CPA, CMA, CFM
Red Coach Donuts
Revive Self Spa
Roger Mojsiejenko - *Mortgage Advisor – United Federal Credit Union*
Santaniello's Restaurant
Schu's Grill & Bar
Sensational Spas - *Brian VanHorn*
Shelley Shell at Allure Salon
Sill Laser Graphics
Silver Beach Pizza
Silver Harbor Brewing Company
Soft Touch Car Wash
Sophia's House of Pancakes
Southshore/Mark Ficks
Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra
Sparkle Quik Lube
Supreme Travel
Tara Newman - *Delicious Deliveries, LLC*
Taylor Rental
The Herald-Palladium
The Inn at Harbor Shores
The Purpose Partners
Tosi's Restaurant
Turquoise Top Hat
United Federal Credit Union
Vickers Engineering, Inc.
Whirlpool Corporation
Whirlpool Foundation

The Future of Robotics

The rate of change in the world seems like it has accelerated dramatically in the last year.

While living in the midst of a global pandemic, we have added to our language with words like "social distance," "bubbles," and "pods." These new terms are now a part of our daily lives. We've had to change the way we work and learn. Being flexible and adaptable are now skills that are in high demand. So as we try to find some sense of normalcy, we realize that the way we have always done things may no longer be effective under our current restrictions. Robotics competitions are no exception.

***FIRST*® Robotics Competitions combine the excitement of sport with the thought-provoking rigor of science, technology, sales and marketing.**

In the past, each season started with a kickoff event where a new, challenging game was unveiled. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the competition needed to be revised and reimagined. And yes, another new word has been added to our vocabulary: **Coopertition® - where teams are encouraged to display gracious professionalism®**, help other teams and cooperate while competing.

Our very own Team Lance-A-Bot will take part in a series of three new challenges where teams compete from "home" in a virtual environment:

THE INFINITE RECHARGE

Rather than building a new model, teams will use their current robot to participate in a series of skills challenges.

THE GAME DESIGN CHALLENGE

Teams are asked to design a ***FIRST*®** Robotics Competition and compete for awards. Winning game designs may be used in future competitions.

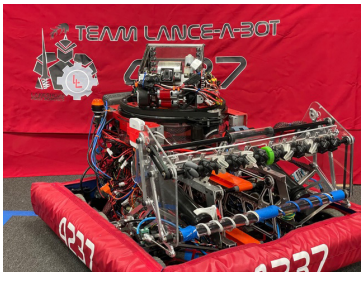
THE FIRST INNOVATION CHALLENGE

Teams are asked to identify a real-world problem and devise an innovative solution to address that issue.

Lakeshore's Robotics Team will be learning skills that are critical to success in life. They are moving from a sport-mindset to a solution-mentality.

Yes, ideas and implementation have always been a part of the robotics requirements, but with the addition of the Innovation Challenge, students will learn that consumers don't just buy technologies. They pay for solutions to their problems. By participating in this process that takes an idea from a concept and transforms it into a life-changing, productive application, our student participants are experiencing the future, today.

The Lakeshore Excellence Foundation is a proud supporter of Lakeshore's STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics) curriculum and educational experiences like robotics.



Learn more about Team Lance-A-Bot:

Website: lakeshorerobotics.com
Facebook: @Lance A Bot
Twitter: @LHSRoboticsTeam
Instagram: @frc_team_4273

Pigeons, Dogs and Cobras in the Classroom

mindful games Activity Cards
BE MINDFUL & STRESS LESS
BE MINDFUL Card Deck for Teens
calm mindfulness flash cards for kids
Mindful Chair Yoga

Middle School Teacher Laura Engleman and Lakeshore Excellence Foundation bring Yoga to Lakeshore Middle School.

Yes, you read that right. We have pigeons, dogs and cobras in the classroom. Of course, we are referring to the pigeon pose, downward dog and cobra yoga poses that are a part of most yoga classes.

Lakeshore Excellence Foundation awarded Jennifer Engleman, a middle school teacher, two grants to bring yoga to the middle school. Engleman shared, **"The pandemic and all the restrictions can be very stressful on students. There are so many positive outcomes from doing yoga. When doing yoga, students are learning tools to help them cope with stress and much more. Even if there hadn't been a pandemic, students can use breathing techniques to help curb anxiety in a non-disruptive way in the classroom."**

Engleman is working toward achieving a Registered Child Yoga Teacher certification, and is training with *Yoga in My School*. It is an accredited provider of the RCYT certification program located in Alberta, Canada. She has already completed a level one children's yoga class, teen yoga training, and is currently taking a trauma-informed yoga class.

Engleman's long term goal is to start an after school yoga program where any student wanting to participate and learn yoga will have the opportunity to do so.

With the covid restrictions this year, she was not able to do that. Instead, she has been teaching yoga to students in her Lancer Time class. "The students love yoga! Some love to use yoga as a fitness tool to increase their strength and flexibility, while others enjoy the mindfulness part of it, and share that it helps them to relax and not be so stressed," said Engleman. Additionally, she has been given the green light to begin an after school class in the fourth quarter of this school year!

LEF LAKESHORE EXCELLENCE FOUNDATION

Lakeshore Excellence Foundation Grants

The next great idea for our schools can come from anyone: students, teachers, staff, or community members. Visit: lefonline.org/grants

Your Support Impacts Students, Teachers and the Community Every Day.

MAJOR PROJECTS

2019 - 2021
$660,000
Auditorium Investment

Reading Matters
Lakeshore Public Schools

2018 - 2021
$300,000 investment
K-12 Reading Curriculum

INTRODUCING OUR NEXT BIG PROJECT:
STEM
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING & MATHEMATICS

2016 - 2018
$425,000 investment
STEM Program K- 12

GRANTS $ GRANTS

2020
$250,000 in grants
awarded to
teachers & students

DID YOU KNOW ...

Education Foundations close the gap between the minimum requirements and Excellence in Education.

ABOUT LEF

501c(3) Nonprofit Organization
Established: 1997
J.C. Anderson, LEF Chairman
Phil Freeman, Superintendent
LEF Board: 27 volunteers
Number of Students: 2,765

LEF
LAKESHORE
EXCELLENCE
FOUNDATION

Excellent schools are the foundation of excellent communities. When you invest in Lakeshore schools through the LEF, you are investing in the quality of life in our community both today and tomorrow.

amazonsmile

You shop. Amazon gives.

Do you shop on Amazon.com? Did you know you can buy the exact same items, at the same price, and LEF will receive a percentage of your sale?

Simply go to Smile.Amazon.com and choose Lakeshore Excellence Foundation as your charitable organization.

MAKE YOUR ONLINE SHOPPING COUNT!

It's as simple as going to:

smile.amazon.com

LAKESHORE Alumni

WAYS TO KEEP IN TOUCH

1. Join the Lakeshore High School Alumni Facebook Group:
   Search for "Lakeshore High School Alumni" and Join the Group
2. Register on the LEF website for email updates:
   lefonline.org/alumni/get-registered

If you graduated from Lakeshore High School, this is a great way to stay in touch!

LAKESHORE EXCELLENCE FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT FUND

The Endowment Fund is our long-term strategy to funding the LEF mission of learning for generations to come.

Annually, the LEF Board evaluates the health of the fund, makes contributions based on giving and project needs, and reinvests the earned interest. If you are interested in learning more about the Endowment Fund, please contact J.C. Anderson at (269) 921-2513 or email at anderjcna@gmail.com.

THE FACTS

The state funding for public schools in Michigan continues to be a challenge and Lakeshore is in the bottom 25% in funding. Yes, 75% of Michigan public school districts receive more state funding on a revenue per student basis!

SIX WAYS TO GIVE

1. Donate conveniently online
2. Swing those clubs
3. Become a Lakeshore Lancer Leader
4. Give us your two cents
5. Endowment Fund
6. Planned Giving

LEF LAKESHORE EXCELLENCE FOUNDATION

Learn more about LEF

Visit our website: LEFonline.org
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Read our newsletter in the *Lakeshore Light*
Contact our Chairman, J.C. Anderson (anderjcna@gmail.com)